

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): An insoluble powder characterized in that the zeta-potential is negative value, and a main ingredient is barium sulfate.

Claim 2 (previously presented): An insoluble powder characterized in that the zeta-potential is negative value, and a main ingredient is metal doped barium sulfate.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The insoluble powder according to Claim 1 ~~or 2~~, wherein an average primary particle diameter is 3 to 100 μ m and an aspect ratio is 3 to 250.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The insoluble powder according to Claim 2 ~~Claims 2 or 3~~, wherein said powder is a metal dope barium sulfate powder obtained by reacting a barium ion and a sulfate ion in the presence of a metal ion.

Claim 5 (original): The insoluble powder according to Claim 4, wherein a mole ratio of the barium ion, the sulfate ion and the metal ion is 1:0.5 to 2:0.001 to 10.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The insoluble powder according to Claim 4 ~~or 5~~, wherein said the metal ion is one or more selected from the group consisting of a lithium ion, a sodium ion and a zinc ion.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A skin barrier function recovering powder comprising of the powder according to Claim 1 ~~to 6~~.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A skin roughening preventing and improving powder comprising of the powder according to Claim 1 ~~to 6~~.

Claim 9 (currently amended): A skin external composition characterized in that a content of the powder according to Claim 1 ~~any of Claims 1 to 8~~ is 1 to 40 % by weight.

Claim 10 (currently amended): An use of the powder according to Claim 1 ~~any of Claims 1 to 6~~ as a skin barrier function recovering agent.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An use of the powder according to Claim 1 ~~any of Claims 1 to 6~~ as a skin roughening preventing and improving agent.

Claim 12 (new): The insoluble powder according to Claim 2, wherein an average primary particle diameter is 3 to 100 μ m and an aspect ratio is 3 to 250.

Claim 13 (new): A skin barrier function recovering powder comprising of the powder according to Claim 2.

Claim 14 (new): A skin roughening preventing and improving powder comprising of the powder according to Claim 2.

Claim 15 (new): A skin external composition characterized in that a content of the powder according to Claim 2 is 1 to 40 % by weight.

Claim 16 (new): An use of the powder according to Claim 2 as a skin barrier function recovering agent.

Claim 17 (new): An use of the powder according to Claim 2 as a skin roughening preventing and improving agent.